

**Movie:** Thirteen Ghosts (Thir13en Ghosts) (2001)



**The Juggernaut**

### **Synopsis**

*Thirteen Ghosts (Thir13en Ghosts)* is a remake of the 1960 horror film, *13 Ghosts*, written by Robb White. When the original film premiered, scenes involving ghosts were shown in Illusion-O: audiences received viewers with red and blue cellophane filters, giving them a choice to see the ghosts (look through the red filter) or not (blue filter “removed” the ghosts).

When his eccentric uncle dies, Arthur Kriticos moves his family into a bequeathed mansion haunted by malevolent ghosts. There is literally danger around every corner, as the spells that keep the ghosts at bay are broken, unleashing the 12 tortured souls onto their new landlord and his family.

### **How it relates to the field of psychiatry**

One by one, the 12 ghosts of the black zodiac are released, each of which has a biography rich in mental illness. The film allows for the discussion of Antisocial Personality Disorder from 12 converging perspectives, each explained by the biographies of the 12 ghosts of the black zodiac (Table. 1).

### **The Juggernaut: The 12<sup>th</sup> Ghost**

**Biography:** The Juggernaut is the ghost of a serial killer named Horace “Breaker” Mahoney. Standing seven feet tall, Mahoney “went mad” following the death of his parents, picking up female hitchhikers and tearing them apart with his bare hands. One day, he picked up an undercover female police officer, who called for backup, bringing in a SWAT team that took Horace down in a hail of bullets. His ghost shows bullet holes all over his clothing, and the round that finished him, in the center of his forehead.

***Links to psychiatry:*** Edmund Kemper

As imposing serial killers go, Breaker Mahoney is the spirit of the “Co-ed Butcher,” Ed Kemper. Standing 6 ft 9 in and weighed about 280 pounds, Kemper killed 10 people, 1 less than his fictional counterpart. Much like the 11<sup>th</sup> ghost, Mahoney depicts severe Antisocial Personality Disorder and sociopathy.

**Thirteen Ghosts (Thir13en Ghosts) & 13 Teaching Points about Antisocial Personality Disorder (APD)**

Number	Ghost of the Black Zodiac	Name	Links	Antisocial Personality Disorder
1	The First Born Son	Billy Michaels	<i>Saw</i> (2004); <i>The Shining</i> (1980)	Since Billy is just a boy, his story reminds that for diagnosis of APD, one must have evidence of Conduct Disorder prior to the age 15
2	The Torso	Jimmy “The Gambler” Gambino	<i>Pulp Fiction</i> (1994)	Along with Gambling Disorder, APD is in the differential diagnosis of compulsive gambling
3	The Bound Woman	Susan LeGrow	<i>Carrie</i> (1976)	Etiology (nurture): Absent father and cold, domineering mother contribute to APD and other mental disorders (see Nos. 8 & 9)
4	The Withered Lover	Jean Kriticos	The Hatfields & McCoys	The role of alcohol in antisocial traits (see #7)
5	The Torn Prince	Royce Clayton	<i>The Warriors</i> (1979)	The “gang mentality” – males adopting APD traits (see #7)
6	The Angry Princess	Dana Newman	<i>American Annie</i> (2012)	Etiology (psychodynamic): APD and “acting out” as a form of non-verbal communication similar to somatic symptom disorder
7	The Pilgrimage	Isabella Smith	<i>VHS</i> (2012)	The “gang mentality” – females adopting APD traits (see #5); substance-induced personality disorder (see #4)
8	The Great Child	Margaret Shelburne	American Horror Story: Freak Show (2014)	Etiology (nurture): The enmeshed family contributes to APD and other mental disorders (see #3)
9	The Dire Mother	Harold Shelburne		
10	The Hammer	George Markley	<i>Candyman</i> (1992)	The role urban legends play in explaining random events of violence
11	The Jackal	Ryan Kuhn	Charles Manson	APD and sociopathy
12	The Juggernaut	Horace “Breaker” Mahoney	Edmund Kemper	APD and sociopathy
13	The Broken Heart	Arthur Kriticos	The Grinch; Elphaba (Wicked, 2003)	There are several examples of people whose hearts grow cold; the 2 listed are favorites who are “green” with envy.

**Key Words:** Thirteen Ghosts, Thir13en Ghosts, 13 Ghosts, Illusion-O, Antisocial Personality Disorder, First Born Son, Billy Michaels, Jigsaw, Saw, Grady twins, The Shining, Torso, Jimmy Gambino, Bound Woman, Susan LeGrow, Carrie, Withered Lover, Jean Kriticos, Hatfields, McCoys, Torn Prince, Royce Clayton, The Warriors, Angry Princess, Dana Newman, American Mary, Pilgrimage, Isabella Smith, VHS, Dire Mother, Margaret Shelburne, Harold Smith, The Great Child, American Horror Story, Freak Show, The Hammer, George Markley, Candyman, Ryan Kuhn, The Jackal, Charles Manson, Juggernaut, Horace Mahoney, “Breaker” Mahoney, Edmund Kemper, The Broken Heart, Arthur Kriticos

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